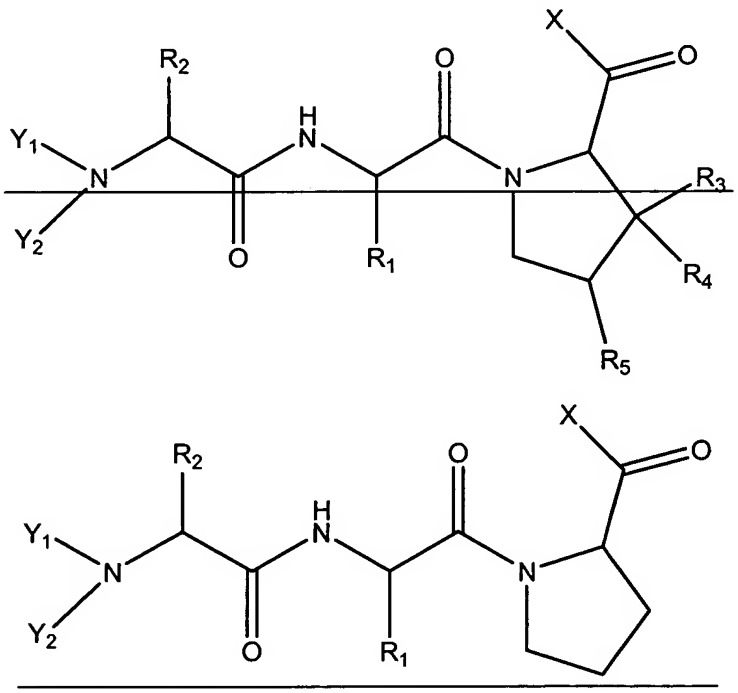
Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A method for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) to a human patient in need thereof:



(I)

wherein X represents ~~OH, (C_{1-5}) alkoxy,~~ NH_2, ~~NH C_{1-5} alkyl, or $N(C_{1-5}$ alkyl$)_2$~~ NH-C_{1-3}-alkyl, or $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)_2$;

R_1 is a residue derived from ~~one of~~ the amino acid[[s]] Phe~~, Tyr, Trp, Pro,~~ which ~~each~~ may be optionally substituted with one or more methyl groups ~~(C_{1-5}) alkoxy groups, (C_{1-5}) alkyl groups~~ or

one or more halogen atoms, ~~as well as Ala, Val, Leu or~~ ; or is a residue derived from the amino acid Ile;

R_2 is a residue derived from one of the amino acids Gly~~, Ala,~~ or Ile~~, Val, Ser, Thr, Leu or Pro~~;

Y_1 and Y_2 independently from each other represent H or (C_{1-3}) alkyl ~~(C_{1-5}) alkyl~~;

~~R_3 and R_4 independently from each other represent H, OH, (C_{1-5}) alkyl or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy, provided that R_3 and R_4 are not both OH or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy; and~~

~~R_5 represents H, OH, (C_{1-5}) alkyl or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy;~~
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein X represents ~~(C_{1-5}) alkoxy, NH_2, NH C_{1-5}-alkyl, or $N(C_{1-5}$-alkyl$)_2$~~ NH-C_{1-3}-alkyl, or $N(C_{1-3}$ alkyl$)_2$.

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the neurodegenerative disease is Alzheimer's disease.

6. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the neurodegenerative disease is mild cognitive impairment.

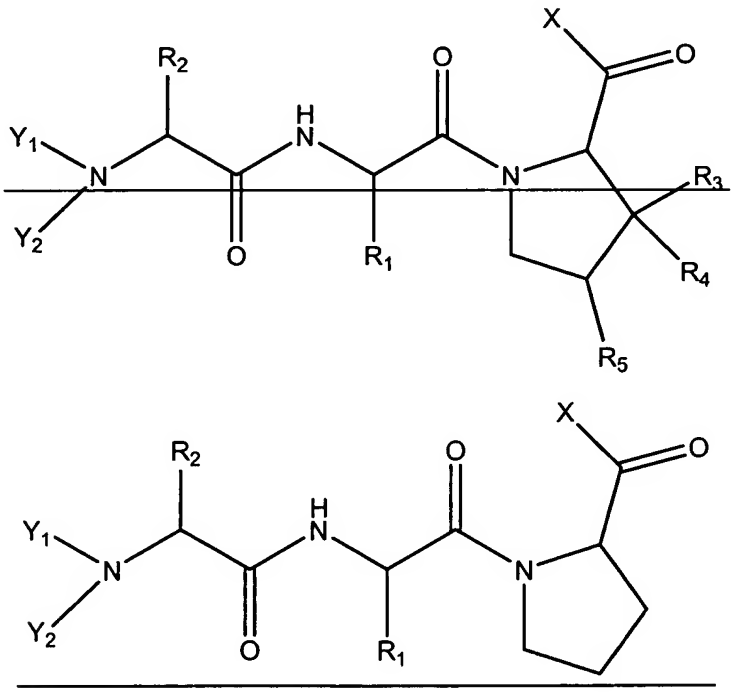
7. (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is a residue which is derived from one of the amino acids Phe~~, Tyr, Trp, each of~~ which may optionally be substituted with ~~a~~ one or more methyl groups ~~(C_{1-5}) alkoxy group, a (C_{1-5}) alkyl group or a~~ or one or more halogen atoms ~~or which is derived from Ile~~.

8. (currently amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein R_1 is a residue which is derived from Phe, which may optionally be substituted with ~~a (C_{1-5}) alkoxy group, a (C_{1-5}) alkyl group or a~~ one or more halogen atoms.

9. (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein R_2 is a residue which is derived from the amino acid Gly ~~or Ile~~.

10. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is glycyl-L-phenylalanyl-L-prolineamide, N,N-diethyl-isoleucyl-phenylalanyl-L-proline ethylamide, N,N-diethyl-isoleucyl-isoleucyl-prolineamide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more compounds of the following formula (I):



(I)

wherein X represents ~~OH, (C_{1-5}) alkoxy,~~ NH_2, ~~NH-C_{1-5}-alkyl, or N(C_{1-5} alkyl)$_2$~~ NH-C_{1-3}-alkyl, or N(C_{1-3} alkyl)$_2$;

R_1 is a residue derived from ~~one of~~ the amino acid[[s]] Phe~~, Tyr, Trp, Pro,~~ which ~~each~~ may be optionally substituted with one or more methyl groups ~~(C_{1-5}) alkoxy groups, (C_{1-5}) alkyl groups~~ or one or more halogen atoms, ~~as well as Ala, Val, Leu or~~ ; or is a residue derived from the amino acid Ile;

R_2 is a residue derived from one of the amino acids Gly~~, Ala,~~ or Ile~~, Val, Ser, Thr, Leu or Pro~~;

Y_1 and Y_2 independently from each other represent H or (C_{1-3}) alkyl ~~(C_{1-5}) alkyl~~;

~~R_3 and R_4 independently from each other represent H, OH, (C_{1-5}) alkyl or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy, provided that R_3 and R_4 are not both OH or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy; and~~

~~R_5 represents H, OH, (C_{1-5}) alkyl or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy;~~

and pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

12. (currently amended): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein X represents ~~(C_{1-5}) alkoxy, NH_2, NH-C_{1-5}-alkyl, or N(C_{1-5} alkyl)$_2$~~ NH-C_{1-3}-alkyl, or N(C_{1-3} alkyl)$_2$.

13. (previously presented): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11 or 12, wherein R_2 is a residue which is derived from the amino acid Gly.

14. (previously presented): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein the compound of formula (I) is glycyl-L-phenylalanyl-L-prolineamide, N,N-diethyl-isoleucyl-phenylalanyl-L-proline ethylamide, N,N-diethyl-isoleucyl-isoleucyl-prolineamide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is a residue which is derived from Phe which is optionally substituted with one or more one or more methyl groups ~~(C_{1-5}) alkoxy groups, (C_{1-5}) alkyl groups~~ or one or more halogen atoms, ~~or which is derived from the amino acid Ile,~~ R_2 is a residue derived from the amino acid Gly or Ile, ~~R_3, R_4 and R_5 represent a hydrogen atom, X is NH_2, NH (C_{1-3}) alkyl or N(C_{1-3} alkyl)$_2$,~~ and Y_1 and Y_2 independently from each other represent H or (C_{1-3}) alkyl.

17. (currently amended): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein R_1 is a residue which is derived from Phe which is optionally substituted with one or more methyl groups ~~(C_{1-5}) alkoxy groups, (C_{1-5}) alkyl groups~~ or one or more halogen atoms, ~~or which is derived from the amino acid Ile,~~ R_2 is a residue derived from the amino acid Gly or Ile, ~~R_3, R_4 and R_5 represent a hydrogen atom, X is NH_2, NH (C_{1-3}) alkyl or N(C_{1-3} alkyl)$_2$,~~ and Y_1 and Y_2 independently from each other represent H or (C_{1-3}) alkyl.